THE

Theatrical Observer;

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

No. 5740. *Friday, May* 15, 1840. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play s the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.

LAST evening was repeated *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and the excellent acting displayed in this magnificent revival, not only by Madame Vestris and Mrs. Nisbett, as the merry dames, but by Charles Mathews, as *Slender*, *Anne Page*, by Miss Rainforth, and Mrs.C.Jones, as *Mrs.Quickly*, won the most enthusiastic plaudits from the audience, which was both numerous and elegant. *The Sleeping Beauty in the Wood* concluded.

HAY-MARKET THEATRE.

LAST night the Farce of *Pay for Peeping* was revived, and presented for the first time at this house, for the purpose of introducing MissCharles in the characters of *Charlotte Peery*, *Hannibal Peery*, and *Madame Vif*. This lady acquitted herself with moderate success in her different assumptions. *Careless* was played by W. Lacy, and *Stedfast*, by J. Webster, in good style, while the trifling part of *Jacob* was amusingly acted by Oxberry. *The Irish Attorney* followed, and kept the audience universally in good humour. *How to Pay the Rent* succeeded this piece, and proved no less amusing, and the new Farce of *The Place Hunter* concluded the entertainments.—There was a very good house.

The state of Theatricals, in Paris, is far from flourishing, two Theatres having been recently compelled to close their doors for want of patronage.

Theatre Royal, Birmingham.—Mrs. Honey has been performing during the week in a diversity of characters. She took a Benefit last night. We were much gratified with her appearance on Monday and Wednesday, when we had the pleasure of witnessing it. For youthful hoydenish characters she has few, if any equals, and Vestris herself does not wear the "gentleman's petticoat," much more smartly. On Wednesday her favorite song of the "Rhine," was thrice called for, when she gave, on the second *encore*, "Rory O'More," instead, with a liveliness and archness that could not be surpassed. The houses during the week have been fairish, but far from crowded.—*Birmingham Journal.* The favorite Buckstone is, we perceive, engaged here for a limited period.

Mrs. Wood, the Vocalist.—We regret to learn that the indisposition which prevented the appearance of Mrs. Wood on Thursday night, continued to affect her so seriously that on Saturday also, though she was announced to perform, and though her anxiety to fulfil her engagement was extreme, she was obliged at the very moment of the opening of the Theatre to decline appearing for that night. The consequence was that the doors were closed at the moment the public was flocking thither in crowds, and considerable disappointment was manifested. Mrs. Wood is so much better that she will be able to appear this evening.—*Dublin Mail, the 11th of May.*

E. & J. Thomas, Printers, 6, Exeter Street, Strand.

Taglioni.—A Vienna letter in the *Debats*, mentions that Mlle. Taglioni has recently given, at the Imperial Theatre, the first of ten representations, for which she had been engaged at 1000 florins (2,500f.) each. The Ballet chosen for the first was *La Sylphide*, and the enthusiasm of the public was so great that, during and after the Ballet, they made her appear on the stage altogether forty-two times! When Mlle. Taglioni had got into her carriage, a great number of spectators took the horses out, and dragged the vehicle to her hotel. Among the persons who did so was a young lieutenant of the Imperial Guard in full uniform, who has since received a severe reprimand from his colonel.

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

Dear Ma. Editor.—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town :—

Monday, stroll'd to Madame Tussaud's elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker-st., Portman Sq.—Just added to their unrivalled collection, the splendid full length figures of Her Majesty the Queen, in her Windsor uniform, and Prince Albert in his military costume, also the group of John Knox, reproving Mary Queen of Scots, consisting of Mary, Elizabeth, Henry VIII, Luther, Calvin, and Knox, in magnificent costumes.

Tuesday, I am to be found at the Royal Diorama, Regent's Park, admiring the two splendid Paintings by Le Chevalier Bouton, representing *The Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, in Westminster Abbey*, and the *Interior of the Church of Santa Croce*, at Florence, with all the effect of light and shade, from noon till midnight. This Exhibition is always crowded with fashionables.

Wednesday, pop into the Cosmorama Rooms, to admire a most interesting Exhibition of East and West Indian Fruits of natural size, hanging to the branches and trunks of the trees, pictorially represented,—truly beautiful.

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at Evans's Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden,—quite delighted with the excellence of the singing, commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

Thursday, pay a visit to the Somerset Gallery, Strand, next to Somerset House, to witness *The Industrious Fleas* go through their extraordinary performance of dancing, riding, driving, &c. also two Fleas deciding an affair of honour sword in hand. I then visited the Royal Glass Working Exhibition, paid only sixpence for admission, and received an article in return.

"All good *spirits* come to my *Beck*," at his Dr. Johnson's Tavern, Bolt Court, Fleet Street—where you meet excellent company—capital fare at *fair* prices—delightful singing—(commences every evening at a quarter to nine,) cigars, billiards, good beds, and an enticing bill of fare.

My last white hat getting very shabby thought of putting it into mourning, exclaimed "Yes I have set my *crown* upon a cast, and I will stand the hazard of the *dye*,"—walked into Perring's, 85, Strand, and found Hats so cheap, so waterproof, and so good, gave up the idea of dying at present, and bought a new one.

Afterwards called at Emmett's, 27, Holborn Hill, to view his Novel Pen Maker by which any one can make a superior Pen in less than one minute—also his much improved Needle Threader, to enable Ladies, whose sight is impaired to thread their needles with the greatest ease—a most ingenious contrivance.

Went to visit some country cousins, found them at Blake's Tavern, King William Street, West Strand, quite surprised at the excellence of their fare, and cheapness of their beds, wines, spirits, and accommodation. On a Saturday evening there is a highly respectable convivial meeting held here, which commences at 9 o'clock.

"Why are my eyes like Balfe's Opera of *The Maid of Artois?*" "Because they've got the *Light of Other Days* in them!" through trying the efficacy of Grimstone's Herbacious Eye Snuff—a 2s. 4d. & 1s. 3d. Canister restored my visual organs—quite a miracle—left off my spectacles.—Bought at 39, Broad-st, Bloomsbury—have a care to the inventor's signature—and that it is patronized by the Royal Family and authorized by her Majesty's Treasury on each canister.

On Saturday, I examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—just added other beautiful specimens of her art—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, Shakspeare's Comedy of

Twelfth Night;

Or, What You Will.

Duke Orsino, Mr COOPER, Curio, Mr WIGAN,
Valentine, Mr FITZJAMES,
Sir Toby Belch.....Mr BARTLEY,
Sir Andrew Aguecheek, Mr MEADOWS,
Sebastian, Mr J.VINING, Antonio, MrDIDDEAR,
Malvolio, Mr W. FARREN,
Clown ..... Mr HARLEY,
Roberto, Mr SELBY,
Friar, MrW.H. PAYNE, Fabian, Mr T. GREEN,
Officers, Messrs. COLLETT and IRELAND,
Olivia, Mrs WALTER LACY,
Viola ..... Miss ELLEN TREE,
Maria, Mrs HUMBY,

THE EPILOGUE SONG BY MR. HARLEY.

After which (23d Time) a New & Original Grand Comic, Romantic, Operati Melo-Dramatic, Fairy Extravaganza, in 3 parts, entitled The

SLEEPING BEAUTY

IN THE WOOD.

Part First.—Period, 1583.

The BOUDOIR of the FAIRY BANEFUL,
Nine Thousand Miles North of the Kingdom of Noland.
The Fairy Baneful, Mrs TAYLEURE,
Newspaper Imp, (*not "Printer's Devil,"*) Master FLIGHT,

BANQUET HALL,

Thomas, surnamed "Noddy," (*King of Noland*) Mr J. BLAND,
Queen Serena, (*His Consort*) Mrs MACNAMARA,
BaronFactotum,(*Grand-Lord-High-Everything*)MrHARLEY
TheFaryAntidota, MissLEE, TheFairyElegantina, MissPHILLIPS

Part Second.—Period, 1601.

TheLadyAuroraAbigail(1*stofthe Bedchamber*)MissRAINFORTH

APARTMENT OF THE PRINCESS,

The Princess Is-a-belle,(*aged* 18, *all but an hour*)Mad.VESTRIS,
La Cachoucha, by Mademoiselle MARIA LUIGIA BETTONI.

Lobby & Lumber Room at theTop of theCastle.

THE STATE BED CHAMBER.

Part Third.—Period, 1701.

LarryO'Clog, } *Wood Cutters*, { Mr BROUGHAM,
Colin Clump, } { Mr KERRIDGE,
Prince Perfect, Mr J. VINING,
Person-ages "In Statu Quo"—Though a Century Older.
Ex-King of Noland. (aged 160) Mr J. BLAND,
Ex-Queen of ditto, (aged 150) Mrs MACNAMARA,
Lord Factotum, (aged 140) Mr HARLEY,
Lady Aurora Abigail, (aged 120) Miss RAINFORTH,
The Princess Is-a-belle, [still,] (aged 118) Mad.VESTRIS,
Illuminated Palace and Gardens, of the Fairy Antidota,

Mademoiselle LUIGIA BETTONI,
Will Dance **"LA CRACOVIENNE."**

Theatre Royal, Hay-market.

This Evening, the Play of The

Lady of Lyons.

Beausant (a rich gentleman of Lyons) Mr J. WEBSTER
Glavis, (his friend) Mr WEBSTER,
Col. (afterwards General) Damas, Mr STRICKLAND,
Monsieur Deschappelles, Mr WALDRON.
Capt. Gervais Mr HOWE, Capt. Dupont Mr WORRELL
Major Desmoulins, Mr CAULFIELD,
Landlord of the Golden Lion, Mr T. F. MATHEWS,
Gaspar, Mr O. SMITH,
Claude Melnotte, ... Mr MACREADY,
Madame Deschappelles, Mrs W. CLIFFORD,
Pauline Deschappelles, Miss H. FAUCIT,
Widow Melnotte, Mrs STANLEY,
Janet, ... Miss GROVE.

After which, (9th Time) a New and Original Farce, in Two Acts, (by the Author of "His Last Legs," &c.) called The

Irish Attorney;

Or, Galway Practice in 1790.

Pierce O'Hara, (the Irish Attorney) Mr POWER,
Jacob Wylie (a Yorkshire Attorney, his Partner,) Mr STRICKLAND
Hawk, Saunders, (their Clerks,) Mr OXBERRY, Mr CLARK,
Charlcote, (a Young Fox Hunter) Mr WORRELL,
Maldon, (his Friend) Mr HOWE,
Fielding..... (his Rival) ..... Mr CAULFIELD,
Miss Charlcote, Miss TRAVERS,
Sally..... Miss MATTLEY.

To conclude with, (4th time,) the New Farce of The

Place Hunter!

Adrian Colbert. . Mr J. WEBSTER,
Uncle Noset..... .... Mr STRICKLAND,
Renard, Mr WRENCH,
An Unknown Friend ..... Mr O. SMITH,
Pierre, Mr Clark, Blaise, Mr Bishop, Mayor, Mr Gough
Madame Renard, Miss CHARLES,
Babille, Miss P. HORTON, who will introduce a new Song, called "Oh! you naughty, naughty men!"
Madame Colbert, Miss TRAVERS.

To-morrow, Richelieu, The Irish Attorney, and The Place Hunter.

Printed and Published, every Morning, by E. & J. Thomas, 6, Exetar Street, Strand.—All Letters to be post paid—Printing in General.